

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-31, and add the following new claims 32-60.

32. (New) A precursor composition for forming a biologically active anatomical occlusion in an anatomical cavity, comprising:

- a) a polymer-forming, or dissolved polymeric, biodegradable material; and
- b) a biologically active component;

wherein component a) is present in an amount of about 5 to 50% by weight based on the overall precursor composition; wherein said precursor composition forms a biologically active, polymeric occlusion mass when introduced into the anatomical cavity; and wherein the polymer has a molecular weight (MW_w) of at least about 10,000 and less than about 500,000.

33. (New) The precursor composition of claim 32, wherein the polymer has a molecular weight of at least about 50,000 and less than about 100,000.

34. (New) The precursor composition of claim 32, wherein the polymer is a biodegradable polyester.

35. (New) The precursor composition of claim 34, wherein the biodegradable polyester is selected from the group consisting of polyglycolic acids, polylactic acids, polycaprolactone, and their copolymers.

36. (New) The precursor composition of claim 32, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyhydroxybutyrate, polyhydroxyvalerate, and their copolymers.

37. (New) The precursor composition of claim 32, wherein the polymer is a copolymer of trimethylene and a polyanhydride.

38. (New) The precursor composition of claim 32, further comprising a water miscible solvent.

39. (New) The precursor composition of claim 38, wherein the solvent is a mixture of ethanol and water.

40. (New) The precursor composition of claim 32, wherein the biologically active component has the effect of increasing cell attachment or thrombogenicity.

41. (New) The precursor composition of claim 40, wherein the biologically active component is selected from the group consisting of collagen, fibrinogen, vitronectin, other plasma proteins, growth factors, synthetic peptides of these and other proteins having attached RGD (arginine-glycine-aspartic acid) residues at one or both termini, other cell adhesion peptides, GRGDY, oligonucleotides, full or partial DNA constructs, natural or synthetic phospholipids, or polymers with phosphorylcholine functionality.

42. (New) The precursor composition of claim 32, wherein the biologically active component is a polynucleotide encoding a peptide involved in wound healing or promoting cellular attachment.

43. (New) The precursor composition of claim 32, wherein the biologically active component is selected from the group consisting of fibronectin, laminin, bitronectin, hyaluronic acid, silk-elastin, elastin, fibrinogen, and other basement membrane proteins.

44. (New) The precursor composition of claim 32, wherein the biologically active component is pharmaceutically active and is selected from the group consisting of compounds, proteins, oligonucleotides, ribozymes, anti-sense genes, DSN compacting agents, gene/vector systems, nucleic acids, and viral, liposomes and cationic polymers.

45. (New) The precursor composition of claim 32, wherein the biologically active component is a DNA or RNA sequence having a therapeutic effect after being taken up by a cell.

46. (New) The precursor composition of claim 32, wherein the biologically active component is selected from the group consisting of therapeutic polypeptides or proteins, and DNA encoding therapeutic polypeptides or proteins.

47. (New) The precursor composition of claim 32, wherein the biologically active component is recombinant nucleic acid comprising a viral vector having linked thereto an exogenous nucleic acid sequence.

48. (New) The precursor composition of claim 47, wherein the viral vector is an adenoviral vector.

49. (New) The precursor composition of claim 47, wherein the concentration of the viral vector is at least about 10^{10} plaque forming units ("p.f.u.").
✓

50. (New) The precursor composition of claim 48, wherein the concentration of the adenoviral vector is at least about 10^{10} plaque forming units ("p.f.u.").
✓

51. (New) The precursor composition of claim 49, wherein the concentration of the viral vector is at least about 10^{11} p.f.u.
✓

52. (New) The precursor composition of claim 50, wherein the concentration of the adenoviral vector is at least about 10^{11} p.f.u.

53. (New) A biologically active occlusion mass formed from the precursor composition of claim 32.

54. (New) A procedure for at least partially filling an anatomical cavity comprising the steps of :

- a) introducing the precursor composition of claim 32 into said cavity; and
- b) forming a biologically active occlusive mass in the cavity.

55. (New) The procedure of claim 54, wherein a bolus of the precursor material is introduced into a catheter and injected into the cavity, and once the mass is formed, the catheter is removed.